

2007's Best Decorative Products

Here are some products for the decorative concrete industry that have been introduced to the market over the past year. Most of them were developed as decorative products but a couple of them come with a successful past from other industries.



Countertop resurfacing system

The Granicrete Counter Top system's engineered texture adheres directly over an existing countertop, rather than replacing it, with no odors and temperature resistance of more than 500° F. Easily create any kind of granite, marble, or high-end concrete look with little cost. A coloring system guarantees a one-of-a-kind look. Application takes only a few days and is done with a trowel and brushes. Granicrete International Inc. 866-438-9564.

www.granicrete.com. Circle 37.



Cantilevered cut stone formliner

Designed for efficiency and aesthetic appeal, the can cantilevered cut stone formliner enhances the beauty of steps by adding a cantilevered edge and a cut stone texture. These flexible, reusable polyurethane formliners are attached easily and are compatible with 11/2-inch dimensional foam or form lumber. They allow the transfer of a rough cut stone texture to tread edges, corners, and risers of cast-in-place steps. Butterfield Color. 800-282-3388. www.butterfieldcolor.com. Circle 38.

Handling heavy profile work

Blastrac's 1-8DEZ light profile shotblast machine was developed to handle floor edges and places that are hard to reach



with standard sized machines. But it turns out that it can create deeper profiles as deep as $^3/_{16}$ ths of an inch through stencils when that is desired. The tool is powered by 7-inch 110-volt angle

grinder with a modified special gear setup. It is a rated to provide a light to medium blast using S170 to S390 blast media. A separate vacuum unit collects the blast material and recycles the shot for reuse. The machine and vacuum unit costs less than half their next sized model. Blastrac 800-256-3440. www.blastrac.com. **Circle 39.**

Colorful waterborne stain

Lithochrome Tintura Stain is a waterborne stain in vivid colors, pastels, and grays. It penetrates and bonds with porous concrete or cementitious toppings for nonfading, predictable colors. When finished with the compatible sealer, it is durable enough for hightraffic interior floors. It can be used on concrete walls, columns, and other vertical features. Unlike coatings that delaminate when used on concrete, the stain chemically bonds with cured concrete that is uncolored, color-hardened, or integrally colored, and is compatible for use on cementitious toppings. L.M. Scofield Co. 800-800-9900. www.scofield.com. Circle 40.



A new family of sealers
Polyaspartic polyureas make
waterproof coatings that can be



applied with paint rollers, sprayers, or paint brushes. They are easy to use and have four times the abrasive wear resistance of acrylics or epoxies. Flexmar Sealer can be installed at temperatures as low as -20° F

and as high as 140° F, can withstand temperatures as high as 350° F when cured, are UV stable producing water clear coatings, have excellent wetting and penetrating characteristics, which means they form very good bonds to concrete, won't blush or whiten, and they protect concrete from stains, fats and oils, and mild acids. The product self primes and cures to handle traffic in approximately and hour's time. Flexmar Coatings. 724-339-1442. www.flexmarcoatings.com. Circle 41.



Stripping agents that use hvdrogen peroxide and benzyl alcohol technology have been used for years to remove urethane sealers from airplanes and other demanding situations. DoradoStrip Coating Removers are biodegradable and nonhazaradous. They will remove nearly all types of coatings including latexes, alkyds, lead-based paints, epoxies, urethanes, and even elastomeric waterproofing. It won't affect glass, rubber, or plastic. It contains no harsh solvents. Eldorado Solutions. 800-531-1088. www.eldoradochem.com. Circle 42.

Spraying decorative sealers and stains

The Spray Safe System is a carefully thought out spraying system using compressed carbon diox-

ide to power a pump that sprays fluid at a constant pressure. Included in the kit is a cart, regulator, pump, wand and CO2 canister similar to the ones used for paint guns. The kit also includes five conical-spray pattern tips to gage the flow of material. Because there is no motor or electricity involved, you can spray flammable liquids with solvents such as acetone or lacquer thinner. They

also supply a plastic wand for acid-based applications. One CO² canister will spray 5 gallons of sealer and the canisters can easily be refilled at large retail stores. Patriot Sprayer Systems Inc. 800-592-9320. www.patriot sprayer.com. **Circle 43.**

For doing stencil profile work

The Sandroid makes it possible to profile fine detail onto floor slabs, walls, and ceilings. The tool is used usually in combination with stencils. It shoots a blast media through a nozzle which then vacuums up the residue from the concrete, sending it back to the machine where the blast media is recycled and



sent back to the nozzle for reuse. The dust is stored in the canister. The filter mechanism allows for long-term use without disassembly and cleaning. Engrave-A-Crete. 800-884-2114. www.sandroid.com. Circle 44.

Concrete countertop product line Cheng Concrete Exchange intro-

duces a new line of concrete countertop products—

Cheng Concrete Countertop
Products. the Pro-Formula mix
combines color, strength, and
workability while the slurry
backfills voids. The sealer offers
a streak-free finish with a natural
luster and the wax results in a
lustrous shine and polish.
Finally, the polish forms a protective layer on the concrete.
Cheng concrete Exchange.
510-849-3272. www.concrete
exchange.com. Circle 45.

Limitless color possibilities

Elements Transparent Stain is made with nanopigment technology and formulated with micronized oxides to create limitless translucent color variations

similar to acid stains. This non-film stain is suitable for existing interior concrete floors, exterior landscapes, and concrete blocks, pavers, and overlays. This environmentally friendly stain is breathable, UV-

breathable, UVstable, and freezer/thaw-resistant. Butterfield Color. 800-282-3300. www.butterfieldcolor.com. Circle 46.



Artistry in Motion at World of Concrete 2007

very year at the World of Concrete, a special section of the trade show is
 devoted to the artistic feats being accomplished with concrete. Attendees
 watch as the artists create masterpieces before their eyes. Each year seems

to out do the previous year. The Artistry Demo space this year was the largest to date, with people coming back many times to view artist' progress. It is considered a "must see" for contractors interested in decorative concrete. We would like thank our sponsors for making this event possible.

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